

The Bromeliad Blade

Newsletter of the
San Diego
Bromeliad Society

May 2018

VOLUME LIII

NUMBER 5

President's Message

By Scott Sandel

Well, it is nearly conference time.

World Bromeliad Conference, of course. We are doing well as a team, getting all our ducks in a row. Allow me to make an additional request of our awesome membership at SDBS: Please consider volunteering to be a helper at the conference. Even if you are not registering, you will be able to view the plant show and sale when you are volunteering.

Go to our website

sandiegobromelidsociety.org to click on the Volunteer page. There, you will find a hyperlink box that leads you to the volunteer sign-ups. Or even better, see me at the meeting this month and let me know when you'd like to volunteer, and I will put you on the list!

Spread the word: **The show and sale are free to attend and open to the public on Friday through Sunday only.** Think of that relative or

neighbor who is always asking you for plants. What a great opportunity to captivate new people to the bromeliad tribe!

At the May meeting we will be going through several topics related to the Conference, so bring us any of your questions. By the way, did any of you see the WBC articles in the current California Garden magazine?

Watch out for a feature article on May 19 in the San Diego Union Tribune Home and Garden section.

This will be featuring bromeliads in the landscape and the WBC. Hopefully, it will attract the public at large to our sale.

Plus, look for Nan Sterman at the WBC. She's considering doing an episode of A Growing Passion on bromeliads, just like the recent episode on Plumerias. How cool would that be? Don't forget to have room in your vehicle on Saturday, as there are some cool plants up for auction and raffle!



Neoregelia 'Yang', at Scott's

Editor's Notes

By Juliana Raposo

Behold the WBC commemorative poster. Made by yours truly...

I drew this one in my iPad pro using an Apple Pencil and Procreate. It's a *Tillandsia xerographica*. It looks like pastel, watercolor and pencil, but it's 100% digital art.

As an original digital artwork, every signed copy is also an original. A limited edition of 100 copies, signed and numbered, will be on sale at the conference. While supplies last!

If you are interested in reserving yours, email me at julianadraposo@gmail.com and I will make sure to include a special handwritten dedication. Your reserved copy will be one of the lower numbers out of the 100 limited edition.

All sale proceeds go to the club.



April Meeting Recap

Scott Sandel presented his New Zealand travelogue. The auction plants were a *Tillandsia latifolia* giant, *Vriesea rauhii* and *Tillandsia leonamiana*, plus, one of the rocks with mounted tillandsias from Dallas Bradford. The plant table was a great selection provided by SDBS member Steve Salley.

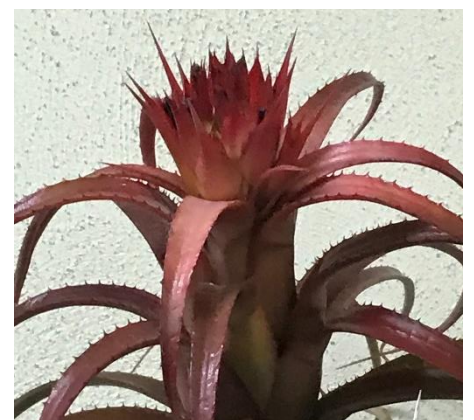
Show and Tell

Here are a few of the entries. The full list is not available because the Blade wasn't there:)

Lucia Velazquez
Tillandsia straminea
Tillandsia velutina



Nancy Groves
Tillandsia punctulata var. Guatemala
(above)



Bob Wright
Aechmea recurvata 'Bronze Age'
(above)
Aechmea 'Seneca'
Dyckia 'Silver Queen' x self

May Meeting

By Andrew Wilson



WBC 2006 San Diego: Did you attend?

This month we'll spend some time looking back at the World Bromeliad Conference held here in 2006. It's a good way to get in tune and ready for this year's conference here. We got a copy of the file from the BSI as a special favor. It may be a bit of an eye-opener to some. However, I think you'll enjoy it.

For those of you who attended that conference held in the Town & Country, Mission Valley, it will be an opportunity to see old places, old faces and some not so old. Do come and share your thoughts and stories about it. We want you to do that. For those who did not attend it will be an opportunity to see how it was back then.

The scene will be quite different out on Mission Bay and so will the plants and personalities. But it's worth looking back at how we did things then. See ya!



'Fun at the Zoo' a topiary with *Tillandsia aeranthos* and *tricholepis*, by Zulema Storf. One of the entries in the artistic category



One of the displays in the 2006 world conference. Anybody remembers who created this one?

Plant Table

By Al Evans

The plant table in May will be from Michael's Bromeliads. Thanks to Dave Kennedy for putting this list together. We will also have 4 ½" plant tags, 100 count, for \$3. *Ae. biflora* and *Ae. Fia* variegated will be up for auction. There may be another plant from the collection of the late Dallas Bradford, as well. Plants on the table will include...

Aechmeas:
cucullata, *hoppi*, Gold Tone, Red Ribbon, Tokuri, and Silver Streak.

Billbergias:
Carioca and Allison Sill.
xCryptananas: Pink Utopia

Dyckia:
Betty Garrison and Ruby Ryde



Guzmania:
Tutti-Frutti and Anita variegated

Hechtia:
texensis

xNeophytum:
Ralph Davis

xNeostropsis:
Shadeball

Orthophytum:
disjunctum var. *viridiflorum*,
lemei x *gurkenii*, Mother Load and *saxicola* variegated

Puya:
mirabilis

Quesnelia:
arvensis

Tillandsia:
krukoffiana

xUrsumeia:
Ma Williams



*Above: plant table preview
Left: *T. ionantha* on lava rock from the Bradford estate will be in the auction*

Could not Bring in *Tillandsia ponderosa* - part 2

By Andrew Wilson

In November 2017 Bromeliad Blade I described how a *Tillandsia ponderosa*, after six years perched on a branch, had finally produced its large, handsome spike (below). It was facing its end, being listed among those tillandsias that are monocarpic, or one-shot wonders.



That list, compiled by Geoff Lawn and referenced in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society (JBS31:3:123, JBS31:6:288) includes dozens of tillandsias that have been seen to bloom only once and then pass away. I had seen this occur with other species such as *T. oerstediana* and *T. eizii*, all painful losses.

However, early this year the fortunes of *T. ponderosa* changed when several pups began to appear. Below, left and right you can see the plant now (April 2018) with several strong offshoots at its base. The inflorescence is still colorful and flowers are still appearing. Is the list wrong? Or, are there other factors in play?

A chat with Geoff Lawn in Perth, Australia indicated that the list was never intended to be the final word on the monocarpicity of tillandsias. He suggests that more work is needed and that at least

the list should be reviewed. Perhaps we could create one for the tillandsia species (and hybrids) grown in Southern California. Hands up those of you who have lost plants in this way!

Because reports of monocarpic tillandsias have shown up in numerous parts of the world it might be worth seeing if cultivation methods or growing conditions play a role. Is a tree branch in San Diego more likely to assist vegetative reproduction than one in Guatemala?

How about you - Have you ever seen a monocarpic tilly grow offsets? Send your comments to andrew@avonia.com



Upcoming Events

SDBS Meetings

May 12, 2018 @ 10 AM
SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

June 9, 2018 @ 10 AM
SDBS Monthly Meeting
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Monthly Meetings

1st Tuesday, 6:30 PM
San Diego Orchid Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdorchids.com

2nd Saturday, 1 PM
San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.sdcss.net

2nd Wednesday, 7 PM
San Diego Epiphyllum Society
Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101
www.SanDiegoEpi.org

2nd Monday, 5:45 PM
San Diego Horticultural Society
Congregation Beth Israel (CBI)
9001 Towne Centre Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
sdhort.org

The Conference is Upon Us!

World Bromeliad Conference 2018

San Diego



May 29 - June 3, 2018
fiesta de las bromelias

There's still time to register.

Visit <http://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/>

Can't make it to the whole conference?
Sign us for the \$80 optional garden tour:

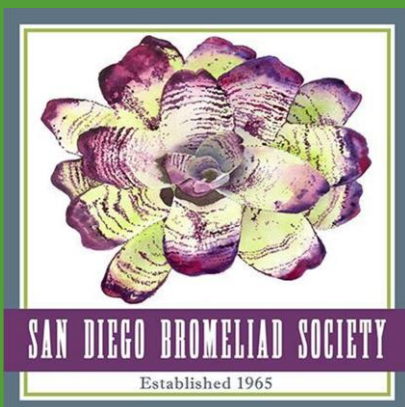
<http://www.bsi.org/new/sign-up-for-the-optional-bus-tour-excursion/>

Bring your friends and family to the free Show & Sale!

June 1, 2 & 3 from 9-5

Paradise Point Resort
1404 Vacation Rd
San Diego, CA 92019

THE BROMELIAD BLADE



Newsletter of the San Diego
Bromeliad Society

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To send material for publication,
please contact Juliana at
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Make sure to submit your
contribution before the 20th of
the month for inclusion in the
next newsletter.

SDBS MEETING

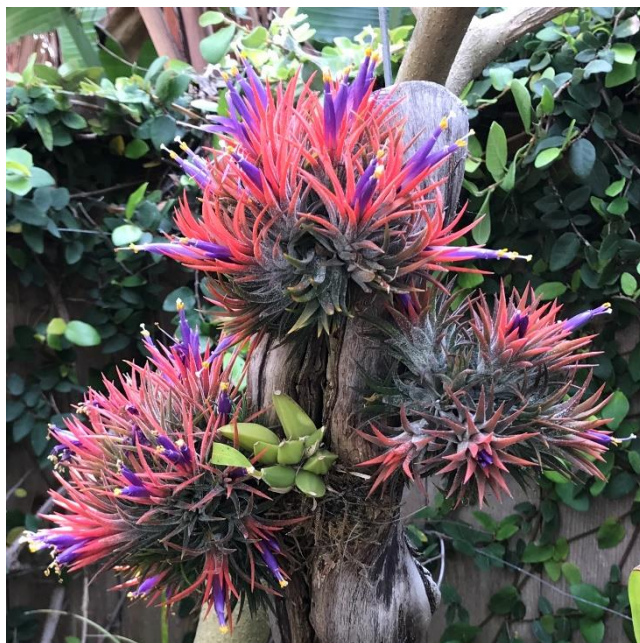
The club meets on the second
Saturday of the month at 10am in
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado,
room 104.

SDBS WEBPAGE

www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org

Now Blooming

T. ionantha, A. nudicaulis



SDBS 2018

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